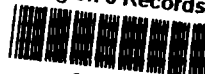


EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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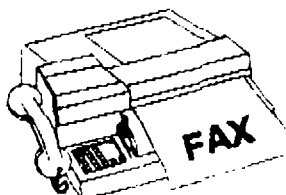


ILLINOIS
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY

P.O.Box 19276
2200 Churchill Road
Springfield, IL 62794-9276

REMEDIAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT SECTION

DATE 11 jun 92



TIME: 2 P.M.

PLEASE DELIVER THESE 14 PAGES.
INCLUDING THIS COVER PAGE TO.

NAME: WAIDE HARTWICK
LOCATION: USEPA - RT

COMPANY PHONE NUMBER: 312 886 7067

NUMBER: 312 886 4071

NAME: PAUL TAKACS

PLEASE REVIEW THIS REVISED COMMUNITY RELATIONS
PLAN & FACT SHEET FOR BELOIT CORP. WE
ARE ANTICIPATING A 22 JUN START DATE FOR
OFFICE PHONE NUMBER 217 785 3912 FIELD ACTIVITIES
FOR THE RI

IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE ALL OF THE PAGES OR PAGES ARE ILLEGIBLE,
PLEASE CONTACT US AT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

OUR TELECOPIER NUMBER IS (217) 524-4193
OPERATOR'S PHONE NUMBER IS (217) 785-8448

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

Page 2

The information in this plan is based on discussions which began in the Summer 1988 with several residents in the Blackhawk Subdivision and the surrounding area, file searches, and telephone contacts with local officials.

B. CAPSULE SITE DESCRIPTION

The Beloit Corporation Site is located north of Rockton, Illinois, in Winnebago County. Situated about two miles from the northern border of the state, this site covers approximately one square mile. (See Map on Page 11)

The site extends over developed and undeveloped commercial and residential property and is bordered to the west by the Rock River; to the north by Prairie Hill Road; to the east by Rockton, Illinois; and to the south by an access road from Rock River to Blackhawk Boulevard. (See Map on Page 12)

Beloit Corporation, located at 1165 Prairie Hill Road, has owned its present property since approximately 1957. The Beloit Corporation manufactures machines that produce layered paper products from paper pulp. In addition to the manufacturing plant, the Research and Development (R & D) facility designs and demonstrates the paper making machines.

At the R & D facility, wastewater from the pulp extraction was discharged to three unlined treatment lagoons northwest of the facility. The settling paper fiber was periodically removed from the lagoons using a drag line and land applied on the western portion of Beloit Corporation's property. Investigations of this disposal area revealed that the land application was conducted without a permit until November 1983 when the IEPA was issued.

Sludge sampling for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) was conducted in August 1983 by IEPA. The results of the bottom sludge samples contained 1,1,1-trichloroethane, trichloroethylene, tetrachloroethylene, dichloroethane, dichloroethylene, ethylbenzene, and aliphatic hydrocarbons. Analysis of the paper fiber pile also contained cyanide. Beloit Corporation reportedly ceased the use of chlorinated solvents in the Summer of 1983.

In September 1983, Agency personnel met with Beloit Corporation representatives and discussed the use of monitoring wells in conjunction with on site paper fiber land application and the possibility of monitoring wells for the entire facility. As requested by IEPA, Beloit Corporation installed groundwater monitoring wells on their property as a special condition in their permit to land apply paper fiber.

Draft #2

Beloit Corporation Superfund Site
Rockton, Winnebago County, Illinois
January 15, 1991
Revised September 6, 1991; March 9, 1992;
May 18, 1992

This community relations plan identifies issues of community concern regarding the Beloit Corporation Superfund Site in Rockton, Illinois. It outlines community relations activities to be conducted during the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) which is required at all Superfund Sites. The Remedial Investigation (RI) will determine the nature and extent of contamination as well as the potential risk to public health and the environment at the Beloit Corporation Site. The Feasibility Study (FS) will evaluate appropriate cleanup alternatives for the Beloit Corporation Site. This site was proposed for inclusion to the National Priorities (often referred to as the Superfund) List (NPL) on June 24, 1988, and listed on the NPL on August 30, 1990.

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) has prepared this community relations plan to structure a community relations program tailored to the needs of the residents and public officials in and near Blackhawk Subdivision, and those residents in Rockton who might be affected by an investigation of this site.

community relations activities to ensure the public has input to decisions about Superfund sites and that the affected community is well informed about the cleanup process.

This community relations plan contains the following:

- * **Capsule Site Description**, including area maps
- * **Community Background**
- * **Highlights of Community Relations Program**, including location for Information Repository
- * **Community Relations Activities**, including chart illustrating timing of these activities
- * **List of Contacts and Interested Parties**

Page 3

Semi-annual sampling has been conducted at selected monitoring wells since February 1984. In addition to the contaminants (with the exception of cyanide, ethylbenzene and aliphatic hydrocarbons), di-n-octyl phthalate was also found. A Beloit Corporation study by IEPA detected the presence of VOCs at the site. In addition, these areas may contain significant concentrations of heavy metals.

A preliminary assessment was completed and a site inspection was conducted by Agency personnel in October and December 1985, respectively. During an October 2, 1985, IEPA investigation three 55 gallon leaking barrels were discovered. Samples of the spillage revealed levels of benzene (20 ppm), carbon tetrachloride (130 ppm), 1,1,1-trichloroethane (20 ppm), 1,1,2-trichloroethane (20 ppm), ethylbenzene (30,000 ppm), and xylenes

The Beloit Corporation Site was submitted as an NPL candidate in March 1987. It became a proposed NPL site in the Federal Register in June 1988 and finalized in August 1990.

Chemical contamination of drinking water, in private drinking water wells, was found at several locations in Winnebago County during 1986-88. Citizen concern about drinking water contamination led to release of money from the Environmental Protection Trust Fund for IEPA to study groundwater contamination in Winnebago County. Part of this study focused on groundwater contamination north of Rockton. This study revealed the presence of VOCs in seventeen private wells in the Blackhawk Subdivision. Periodic sampling of this study and subsequent sampling at private wells detected: 1,1-dichloroethene, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, 1,1,2-trichloroethane, and 1,2-dichloroethane, and trans-1,2-dichloroethene. Proposed drinking water standards have been consistently exceeded at three of these wells.

In June 1990 the IEPA formally notified three companies identified as being Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) at the Beloit Corporation Superfund Site. These PRPs are: Beloit Corporation, Soterion/United Recovery, Inc. and Safe-T-Way Manufacturing.

Soterion, Inc. operated an oil recycling facility at the southern end of the Watts Avenue neighborhood from approximately mid-1979 to January 1984. United Recovery, Inc. subsequently operated at this property, reprocessing scrap metals. Unknown liquids were reportedly disposed in the on-site septic system and a dry well. IEPA investigations in 1982 noted stained soils and piles of waste

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powders at various sections of the Soterion property; however, no VOCs were found in Soterion's two water supply wells at that time. The presence of VOCs at Soterion will be furthered evaluated during the Remedial Investigation. Thirteen rounds of groundwater data collected to date suggest that this facility is downgradient from affected residential wells in the Blackhawk Subdivision area.

Beloit Corporation also studied suspected releases of hazardous substances at the site. Beginning in July 1984, Beloit Corporation carried out a series of studies on and around the Blackhawk plant property. These studies were performed by Warzyn Engineering with the main objectives of determining if potential contaminant sources exist on the Blackhawk property. Follow-up studies performed in July and August 1987 also investigated concerns regarding geology, hydrogeology and VOC releases. These studies were submitted to IEPA, and, following consultation with IEPA, it was agreed that further investigation was appropriate to determine causes of contamination in private and monitoring wells. After completion of the IEPA and Warzyn studies, it was agreed that further investigation should proceed as part of the Superfund process.

Safe-T-Way, located one block east of Watts Avenue at 918 North Blackhawk Boulevard, is engaged in the manufacturing of explosion proof gas cans. Safe-T-Way has advised IEPA that contaminants found in the Watts Avenue wells are not used at this property.

Upon notification, Beloit Corporation had the willingness to finance the entire RI/FS and has signed a Consent Decree with no admission of liability. The Consent Decree was finalized on October 17, 1991, in Federal court. The Consent Decree requires completion of an RI/FS at Beloit Corporation's expense and reimbursement by the Beloit Corporation of all past costs and incurred costs necessary to select an appropriate remedy in a manner consistent with the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan. This contingency plan outlines the basic principles under which investigations are performed and is applicable to all work performed at the site.

C. COMMUNITY BACKGROUND

Community Profile

The Blackhawk Subdivision is comprised of approximately 65 homes, located outside the city limits of Rockton. Two other homes in the study area are located west of Blackhawk

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Subdivision next to the Rock River. All of the residents in the study area who depend on groundwater for their drinking water could be potentially threatened by contamination from this site. Residents in the Blackhawk Subdivision will be furthered sampled as part of the Remedial Investigation to determine which residents may require alternate water supplies.

The study area for this site is comprised of residents living outside the city limits and include both retirees and young families. The majority of the citizens are long-time neighborhood residents.

Residents living in the Blackhawk Subdivision work in both Rockton, Illinois, and the Beloit Wisconsin, area. Two businesses, Safe-T Way Manufacturing and Rockton located within the Blackhawk Subdivision. Mediated Recovery, Inc. was also located in this area, but it is no longer operating. Buildings associated with this operation are now occupied by new businesses. Taylor Freezer, a major employer in this area, borders the subdivision on the south.

A University of Illinois medical clinic and several small businesses are located near Blackhawk Subdivision on the east side of Blackhawk Boulevard. The City of South Beloit is in the process of developing an industrial park approximately 1/4 mile further east of the study area.

Community Involvement

The incident originated at this site when the Public Health Department responded to odor complaints. A former resident of Blackhawk and other family members experienced headaches and dizziness allegedly due to the odors. Due to complaints made by the local community, IEPA initiated an investigation which led to the detection of VOCs in the groundwater. This aforementioned resident; two citizens living near to Blackhawk Subdivision; and a village trustee, worked together to get private water well sampling conducted in their neighborhood. The effort led to sampling conducted during the Winnebago County Groundwater Study. The community cooperated during the Winnebago Groundwater Study by providing the IEPA access to private drinking water wells. In addition, a few residents also attended a public meeting held on November 20, 1986, by the IEPA at the Wagon Wheel Resort located in Rockton to discuss groundwater sampling results.

The Beloit Daily News and the Rockton Herald covered listing the Beloit Corporation on the NPL in August 1990. In addition, the Rockford Register Star included this site in a

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feature section in June 1990 describing several Superfund sites within the vicinity served by this paper.

Community interest in this site can be characterized by two categories: those individuals who exhibit a high degree of interest and those who show little interest. However, in general, interest has remained low since the site has been placed on the NPL.

Description of Key Community Concerns

The residents, community leaders and local officials expressed the following concerns:

Health The primary concerns expressed in the majority of interviews appears to be long-term health effects from drinking contaminated water and the possibility that their drinking water may become contaminated.

Municipal Well: One of Rockton's public water wells is located one half mile from the site and is completed at 120 ft. below ground in bedrock. Local officials have a concern that the municipal well may be downgradient from the site and that contaminants migrating from the site may affect the well.

Also, it is believed by a community individual that additional concerns regarding real estate may develop as the field work begins and the RI proceeds.

The community relations plan for the Beloit Corporation Site is designed to allow the community to learn about and participate in the Superfund process. The plan will also allow citizens to understand groundwater contamination at this site and the hazards/effects these contaminants may pose. To be effective, the community relations plan must be gauged according to the community's need for information.

1. IEPA will conduct all aspects of community relations activities. IEPA will be consult with local officials, community leaders, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), and Beloit Corporation, as appropriate. During the community assessment, the mayor and other village officials requested to be informed of major milestone activities.

Beloit Corporation will participate in community relations at the discretion of the IEPA and with its

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oversight. Beloit Corporation representatives will have the opportunity to attend public meetings or hearings to answer questions directed of it by the community and to ask questions of the IEPA and its staff. During the conduct of the RI/FS, questions by the community for Beloit Corporation should be directed to its community relations contact, Michael Radcliffe at 414/671-4400.

2. It is imperative that the community have a clear and accurate understanding of the problems at this site. Upon completion of the RI/FS, information will be provided to concerned residents explaining hazards that may or may not be present, the known extent of contamination, and easily understandable descriptions of contaminants found at the site.

Since all of the nearby residents use groundwater as a source of drinking water, Beloit Corporation and IEPA are conducting a survey to identify those residences and establishments who (1) utilize wells completed in the hydrogeologic flow system, and (2) are not serviced by municipal water supplies. From this information, a sampling and analysis program will be conducted to monitor water quality from residential wells. This detailed survey will be conducted by Beloit Corporation's contractor with complete IEPA oversight.

4. Because of the location of this site, news media coverage will be from Illinois and Wisconsin. Local newspapers, and radio and television stations in both states will be informed by IEPA of any significant findings during the RI/FS. In addition, these media will be notified of any public hearings.

To help the citizens understand the problem, information regarding the site will be made available at The Talcott Free Library, 101 East Main Street, Rockton, Illinois (Hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.; Wednesday and Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.). This information will include summaries of past and future investigations.

2. COMMUNITY RELATIONS ACTIVITIES

The following activities are required for the Beloit Corporation Site community relations program. Figure 3 on Page 13 illustrates the timing of each activity during the remedial schedule for the site.

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1. Comment period on Public Comment Feasibility Study (FS) reports: A minimum 30 day public comment period will be held to allow citizens to express their opinions on the Public Comment FS at the Beloit Corporation Site. Notices will be placed in local newspapers to ensure that the public is made aware of Agency actions. The Agency will consider community opinions before approving decisions on selection of a remedial alternative.
2. Public Hearing and Comment Period on Remedy Selection: A 30 day public comment period (with an option for a 30 day extension) will begin when the fact sheet describing the preferred Remedial Action is circulated. During this public comment period, a public hearing will be held to provide a formal opportunity for the IEPA to answer questions and to discuss the recommended action. The hearing should be scheduled as close to the issuance of the mentioned fact sheet. These meetings will be held in an easily accessible and suitably-sized building located in the Village of Rockton.
3. Responsiveness Summary: This required document is a part of the Record of Decision (ROD) for this site. The responsiveness summary will summarize public concerns and issues raised during the public comment period for the remedy selection. In addition, the responses made by IEPA to addressing these concerns will be in the responsiveness summary.
4. Revision of Community Relations Plan: After the ROD has been issued, an addendum will be written and attached to the community relations plan to describe the community relations activities during the RD/RA phase of this project. The revisions of the community relations plan will include:
 - Update facts and verify the information in this community relations plan prepared for the RI/FS.
 - Assess the community relations program to date and indicate if the same or different approaches will be taken during Remedial Design/Remedial Action (RD/RA).
 - Develop a strategy for preparing the community for future role during RD/RA and ongoing operation and maintenance.

The IEPA will also hold community interviews before the Beloit Corporation Site Community Relations Plan is revised.

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5. Information Repository: The IEPA will place fact sheets, technical summaries, site reports (including the CRP), and information on the Superfund program in an information repository. The information repository will be located at The Talcott Free Library. (See #5, Page 7 for library hours.)
6. Beloit Corporation Review of Public Information: Beloit Corporation will be given notice and afforded the opportunity to review written material that is distributed to the public, including news releases and media contacts.

In addition to these basic requirements for a community information program at the Beloit Corporation Site, IEPA will take the necessary steps to ensure that the community is kept informed of site activities and has the opportunity to express concerns. These steps, and their approximate timing, are as follows:

1. Information contact: Michelle Nickey-Tebrugge is designated as the information contact to respond directly to public inquiries regarding site activities.
2. Telephone conversations with local officials and community leaders: The Winnebago County Department of Public Health, the Rockford Regional Illinois Department of Public Health and local officials will be notified of discovery of any significant findings at the site.
3. Informal meetings with local officials and residents: Individual meetings with local officials and community leaders will be conducted by IEPA when the following technical milestones:

Completion of the final work plan

- * Completion of the final RI report
- * Before remedial action starts

These meetings will further assess citizen interest and concerns and assure that all those interested persons are kept informed. If face to face meetings are not possible, telephone contacts will be utilized.

4. Fact sheets and technical summaries: The IEPA will prepare a fact sheet at the beginning of the RI to inform area residents and other interested citizens about IEPA's site plans and the procedures of the Superfund program.

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An additional fact sheet will be made available upon completion of the Remedial Investigation describing the nature and extent of contamination. Another fact sheet will be prepared to outline each of the remedial alternatives considered for the Beloit Corporation Site after finalization of the FS. A detailed description of IEPA's preferred remedial alternative will be provided in the Proposed Plan Summary. All fact sheets will be made available at the information repository.

5. News releases to local media: Local newspapers, radio and television stations will be informed by the IEPA of the discovery of any significant findings at the site during the RI/FS. In addition, these media will be notified of any public meetings. News releases may also be made at the following milestones:

- Issuance of draft FS report
- Signing of the Record of Decision, and
- Before the beginning of Remedial Action

In addition, a separate news release describing Technical Assistance Grants (TAGs) will be issued before field activities begin. This news release will also inform the community that the Information Repository has been established.

7. LIST OF CONTACTS AND INTERESTED PARTIES

This is a listing of local and state officials, contacts, interested parties, and local residents of the Beloit Corporation Superfund Site.

Fact Sheet #1

**BELOIT CORPORATION SUPERFUND PROJECT
REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION
ROCKTON, ILLINOIS
June 1992**

Introduction

The Beloit Corporation is conducting a Remedial (environmental) Investigation as part of the Beloit Corporation Superfund Site project. The site is located south of Rockton, Illinois, in Winnebago County. (See Map) The investigation will be financed by Beloit Corporation and Lyn Engineering, with complete oversight by the Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA).

What is the purpose of the investigation?

The purpose of this investigation is to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the Beloit Corporation Site. Groundwater contamination in drinking water was found at several locations in the Blackhawk Subdivision during the 1988 Winnebago County Groundwater Study conducted by IEPA.

Where will the Remedial Investigation take place?

The Remedial Investigation will include all residences and commercial properties located within the site boundaries.

When will the investigation begin and how long will it take?

The first phase of this investigation is scheduled to begin in July, 1992 with Phase 1 lasting about six months. You will be notified in advance if any additional phases are carried out.

How will the investigation be carried out?

The investigation will be carried out by sampling residential wells and performing soil gas surveys/soil borings. Also included will be the installation and sampling of several monitor wells.

Is residential well sampling necessary?

Previous IEPA investigations have revealed levels of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) which consistently exceeded the proposed drinking water standards in several private wells on Watts Avenue within the Blackhawk Subdivision. VOCs are a general category of chemicals containing carbon and hydrogen that tend to evaporate quickly in air. These chemicals are the primary constituent in degreasers and industrial solvents. IEPA believes that consuming water from these residential wells may pose health risks.

Page 2**Why are monitoring wells installed?**

The monitoring wells will be used to collect data on the direction of groundwater flow, the geology of the area, and the extent of contamination. Monitoring wells will be installed at different depths so the depth of contamination can be evaluated, as well as how large an area of contamination is present.

What is a soil gas survey?

The soil gas survey is a relatively quick method of evaluating approximate concentrations of VOCs near the ground surface. The soil gas survey is conducted by driving a hollow tube into the ground to a depth of three to four feet and withdrawing gas from the ground. The gas will be analyzed for VOCs found in the soil at the site.

We will be informed about the investigation

Once data have been collected and analyzed, verified laboratory results will be made available to the public. Residences whose wells have been sampled will be notified of their results. An explanation of these results will also be provided.

What will happen after the results are known?

The results will be evaluated to determine whether additional monitoring wells need to be installed or more work needs to be done to identify the source(s) of contamination. After all source(s) are identified and the Remedial Investigation is completed, a Feasibility Study will be prepared which will discuss alternatives for reducing or cleaning up the contamination. Before making a final decision on a cleanup, there will be a public hearing and comment period to receive public input regarding cleanup options. The final report will include a summary of public comments along with the responses.

If my house is sitting on contaminated groundwater, am I exposed to the contaminants?

The most significant ways of becoming exposed to contaminated groundwater are by drinking, cooking, bathing or inhaling water vapor from a contaminated private well.

If my neighbors' groundwater well has contamination, does my well have problems?

The geology at this site is extremely complicated. In addition, the site's close proximity to the Rock River causes variations in the groundwater directions. Because of these complications, your well may not necessarily show the same effects of contamination as your neighbor's well.

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Where can I obtain additional information about this Superfund site?

Copies of the Community Relations Plan, Winnebago County Groundwater Study, Remedial Investigation work plan, and facts sheets describing the Superfund process have been placed for public review in The Talcott Free Library, 101 East Main Street, Rockton, Illinois 61072. You may also contact:

Michelle Nickey-Tebrugge
Community Relations Coordinator
IEPA
P.O. Box 19276
2200 Churchill Road
Springfield, IL 62794-9276

Paul Takacs
State Project Manager
IEPA
P.O. Box 19276
2200 Churchill Road
Springfield, IL 62794-9276
217/782-6760